



الاقتصاد والأعمال

Jlacalle

«الكونية السورية القاضية» تحقق مليون دينار أرداحاً

**اعلنت الشركة**  
ارباح في عام 2021  
(نحو 4.3 مليارات)  
بلغت 1.5 مليوناً  
عام 2020 بنسبة  
الشريك في المعا

العنوان

5

Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2022 - 15 th year - Issue No 3850 | العدد ٣٨٥٠ - Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2022 - 15 th year - Issue No 3850

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فيما يلي جدول لبيان الكوادن الممكنة في مختلف الأوضاع المختلفة لـ 35 عاماً

**أحمد يوسف الكندري يحوز جائزة أفضل رئيس تنفيذي في إدارة المراقبة بالكويت**

أكثر من 200 موقع.  
وأشارت إلى أن الشركة المتقدمة  
الراقية تهتم في تطبيق فهوم شامل  
لـ«الذكاء الاصطناعي» في إدارة العمار والبيئة.  
وقالت إنها تطمح إلى أن يكون  
كل عقار مترافق مع كل مسكن، وذلك  
باستخدام أحدث التقنيات التكنولوجية في  
البناء والتشييد، وذلك من خلال  
التعاون مع شركات عالمية متخصصة في الاستئجار، وكذلك  
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لیماک : احمد  
حریق محدود فی  
جزء صغیر من  
من، الڈکا 2

**صرحت** «شركة ليماد للاستثمار»  
**ال الكويت** «بأنها تدرس إمكانية شراء حريق مساحة 1500 دونم من شباب الكويت»  
**محمود السادس العبدالله** وشافع من صياغ سيف بن زيد من سيف باريس  
**«منزوعة السلاح»** تدرس التحويل الموحد للخدمات «المدنية»  
**الحسيني** «الخدمي»  
**الإثنان** «لبيعها»  
**الكتور** «أحمد العاكوباني دون وقوف استثنائيات أو سماوات عاليات»  
**من عجمي** «الجهاز المركزي»  
**الإغاثة** «الجهات الفاعلة»  
**الشرطة** «الإسعاف»  
**الإثنان** «لبيعها»  
**في 5 ملايين دريل يومياً، لكن هذا هو ما يقدر به تأثير تدمير المقر بعد اندلاع الحريق»  
**مكملة** «البلدان المصدرة للنفط»  
**ورديس»  
**والأخير** «أحمد كوكه نجاحو**  
**يبدأ** «التجارة»  
**الافتتاحية** «لبيعها»  
**لبنان** «هذا هو المقدار الذي يقدر بـ 5 ملايين دريل»  
**نقول** «نعم، فعمل في دريل»  
**للملايين** «الذريعة»  
**الإثنان** «تحتمد مع مجموعة**  
**الآن** «لبيعها»  
**الإثنان** «تحتمد أون لاين»  
**في 31**

**«الخطوط الكويتية» تبدأ تشغيل رحلاتها التجارية إلى الدار البيضاء مطلع يونيو**

اعتنى شرط الخطول المسمى الكتبة تشغيل اصحابها العاملة بالجهة المحيطة التي هي مدينة الدار البيضاء فالكتبة تشغيل اعيادنا من 1 يومي ومواعيد بوق عدنان في الاسبوع . وسائل اعلام رئيسية للقطبي التشغيل والتقارير . وادي دار الدين في بيان يبيان مسوئل اسن من احداث خطوط الماء الديوكسي .

شراكة مميزة بين «المطاحن» و«طلبات»



أعادت شركة مطارات الكويت  
نشرة المنشآت ووجهت المساجدة  
الشمسية إلى الأداء في المقطف عن  
توقف المساجد شرقياً بعد إغلاقها من شرطة  
الداخلية بسبب انتشار فيروس كورونا.  
مطر وتوسيع دائرة منشآت  
المسجد لمحظوظ المنشورة في  
النحو الثاني من شهر رمضان  
الحادي عشر، وذلك تبعياً لجمع  
الإنسان المأذون بالصلوة  
المؤمنة بغير ملائكة ملائكة  
السماء.

ضمن قائمة طوالة من الشركات

الكويتية للاستثمار» تدشن أول خدمة صانع سوق لـ«المعامل»

النهار | مال وأعمال

**الإمارات: لا يمكن الاستغناء عن النفط الروسي**

**الوزير المسؤول عن الميزانية العامة** يطلب من مجلس الأمة تشكيل لجنة مختصة لدراسة ملخص الميزانية العامة، وذلك في موعد لا يتجاوز 15 يوماً من تاريخ تقديم الميزانية العامة إلى مجلس الأمة، وذلك لبيان ملخص الميزانية العامة وبيان تفاصيلها، وذلك في موعد لا يتجاوز 15 يوماً من تاريخ تقديم الميزانية العامة إلى مجلس الأمة، وذلك لبيان ملخص الميزانية العامة وبيان تفاصيلها.

**البرميل تراجع 5 دولارات.. ويزنت عند 115.6 دولاراً**

## النفط بين سندان مخاوف الطالب ومطرقة إغلاقات «كورونا»

استهلكت اسعار النفط العالمية تعاملاتها، باختلافات وصلت الى 5 دولارات للبرميل، ووفقاً لوكالات «رويترز»، انخفضت المقدمة الاجلة بخallo برنت اكثر من 5 دولارات الى 115.62 دولاراً للبرميل، بينما انخفضت المقدمة الاجلة للخام الأميركي 5 دولارات ايضاً الى 109 دولارات للبرميل، وتراجعت اسعار النفط مع تناول المخاوف بشأن تباطؤطلب على الوقود في الصين، بينما دعت معدات الطائرات في شفشاون الى عزلة لإجراء اختبارات لكتف عن كوفيد-19.

الاتصال والتغطية

## الشعيل: 5 فائزين في سحب «وربة» الخاص بـ«الحصالة»



الكندي حصد جائزة أفضل  
رئيس تنفيذي في إدارة المراافق



**يُعَظِّمُ مِنْ عَوَادِلِ الْمُسْتَثْمِرِينَ**  
**«أَرْزَانٌ فِينِتُشِرٌ كَابِيتَالٌ» تَتَخَارِجُ  
مِنْ «POSRocket» و«Tamatem»**



«stc» فازت بجائزة «أفضل مزود حلول تقنية» و«أفضل شركة اتصالات في حوكمة الشركات»



Minecraft, the best-selling video game in history, engaging more than 170 million players, will be able to earn Trillium, the native cryptocurrency in the Alien Worlds metaverse. Alien Worlds is one of the largest play-to-earn (P2E) blockchain games and NFT metaverses.

Launched in 2020, Alien Worlds has grown to be the second largest blockchain platform by market capitalization. The game's users can play with unique digital items (NFTs), stake Trillium tokens, travel on Alien Worlds Missions to other planets, vote in elections, and run for planetary council.

The game's 6 planet DAOs compete with each other for Trillium, encouraging user collaboration.

The new interoperability bridge to the online building platform will have resounding effects in the traditional and blockchain gaming worlds. The bridge will accelerate the onboarding of non-blockchain gamers to the Alien Worlds Metaverse, and also due to the open-sourced nature of the code developed - empower other Minecraft servers to earn play-to-earn rewards. Plus, it will allow other blockchain

projects to tap into Minecraft's vast user base.

Additionally, this interoperability will offer traditional gamers the opportunity to earn real world utility by staking their NFTs, for completing quests. Players are able to exchange their digital assets freely, enabling them to earn real world utility by getting involved in Alien Worlds' simulated economy.

This bridge is significant in that we are linking one of the world's most popular decentralized games to the blockchain, and opening up a world of new possibilities

for Minecraft players through our social metaverse," says Alien Worlds co-founder Saro McKenna. "We think our combination of economics, team strategy, and earning will attract many traditional gamers and Web3 players."

Additionally, earning Trillium will allow Minecraft gamers to stake the fungible tokens to one of the Alien Worlds Planet DAOs, which have their own governance in this space. Staked Trillium translates into voting power to determine control of planetary treasures. Minecraft players will also be able to learn about DAOs, but also

to participate in the collaborative, competitive and highly strategic environment that their gamification entails.

Alien Worlds is a breakthrough NFT Metaverse that is revolutionizing the most popular play-to-earn blockchain games, where users can play with unique digital assets (NFTs), stake Trillium tokens, travel on Missions to the planets, vote in elections, and run for planetary council. The game's 6 planet DAOs compete with each other for Trillium, allowing users to collaborate, compete and strategize with one another. (Agencies)

# Equities climb on Wall Street as talks on Ukraine progress



In this photo provided by the New York Stock Exchange, trader Matthew Cheslock works on the floor, Monday, March 28, 2022. Stocks rose on Wall Street Tuesday as talks on ending the war in Ukraine showed signs of progress. (AP)

## Gains led by tech, communications companies

**NEW YORK, March 29,** (AP): Stocks rose on Wall Street Tuesday as talks on ending the war in Ukraine showed signs of progress.

The S&P 500 rose 0.8% as of 11:38 a.m. Eastern. The Dow Jones Industrial Average rose 260 points, or 0.8%, to 35,220 and the Nasdaq rose 1.2%.

The gains were led by technology and communications companies. Apple rose 1.2% and Netflix rose 3.6%. Retailers and other companies that rely on direct consumer spending also made solid gains.

Smaller company stocks outpaced the broader market in a sign that investors were confident about the economy. The Russell 2000 rose 2%.

The first face-to-face talks in two weeks between Russia and Ukraine began Tuesday in Turkey. Turkey's foreign minister says Russian and Ukrainian negotiators have reached "a consensus and common understanding" on some issues. Russia's military said it would "fundamentally" end its invasion of Ukraine's capital and a northern city, as talks brought a possible deal to end a grinding and brutal war into view.

Russia's invasion of Ukraine has been meting markets and adding to lingering concerns about persistently rising inflation and global economic growth. Investors were already busy trying to determine the potential duration and impact of rising inflation on businesses and consumers when the conflict began a month ago.

Energy prices have been extremely

volatile as the conflict continues, but have been easing over the last few days. Pressure on prices is also being relieved as Chinese authorities lock down Shanghai because of surge in COVID-19 cases, which could disrupt global demand for oil.

U.S. crude oil prices fell 2.8% and Brent crude, the international standard, fell 2.5%. Prices are still up more than 50% globally, but were up more than 50% as of just last week.

Falling oil prices weighed down energy companies, which had some of the biggest losses on Tuesday. Hess slid 1.5%.

### Yield

The yield on the 10-year Treasury note fell to 2.43% from 2.47% last Tuesday. Bond yields had been rising recently after a series of ultra-low interest rates from central banks around the world. The rate hikes are part of a strategy to help temper the impacts of rising inflation.

The Federal Reserve has already announced a 0.25% hike of its key benchmark interest rate and is prepared to continue raising rates.

Wall Street is also reviewing the latest economic updates this week. U.S. consumer confidence bounced back in March, according to a report from business research group The Conference Board.

The Commerce Department will release its February report for personal income and spending on Thursday, and the Labor Department will release its employment report for March Friday.

Germany's DAX jumped 1.3% to 14,599.17 and the CAC40 in Paris

surged 1.7% to 6,700.18. Britain's FTSE 100 gained 0.8% to 7,531.55.

Russia's MOEX index climbed 3.7% in the second day of full trading after it was closed for about a month following the Feb. 24 invasion of Ukraine. Limits have been imposed to curb volatility.

In Asian trading, Tokyo's Nikkei 225 rose 1.1% to 28,252.42 and the Kospi in Seoul added 0.4% to 2,740.13. The Hang Seng in Hong Kong picked up 0.8% to 21,864.68, while the Shanghai Composite index lost 0.2% to 3,203.94 as the city entered a second day of a lockdown to combat a COVID-19 outbreak.

A two-phase lockdown on Shanghai's 26 million people is testing the limits of China's handling "zero-COVID" strategy whose effects are being felt beyond the country's borders.

Australia's S&P/ASX 200 surged 0.7% to 7,464.30 as the government said it plans to increase spending on national security while reducing costs for households, in part by reducing a tax on gasoline. Treasurer Rong Yixin was to present the proposed budget Tuesday.

### Higer

Weak oil prices have helped push shares higher, said Yeap Jun Rong of IG.

"China, Japan, South Korea and Taiwan are major oil importers, hence lower oil prices may be deemed as positive for their economies," Yeap said in a commentary.

In currency trading, the dollar slipped to 123.57 Japanese yen from 123.77 yen. The euro rose to \$1.0997 from \$1.0983.

## Co targets strong, efficient balance sheet

### ABB completes its share buyback program

**ZURICH, March 29,** (Share): ABB has completed its share buyback program that was launched in April 2021 as part of the company's commitment to return to shareholders cash proceeds from the Power Grids divestment of \$7.8 billion.

Through this buyback program, ABB repurchased a total of 90,069,100 shares - equivalent to 4.15 percent of its issued share capital at launch of the buyback program - for a total amount of approximately \$3.1 billion over the past 12 months.

In total, since July 2020, ABB repurchased 218,686,489 shares under its Power Grids capital return program for a total amount of approximately \$6.6 billion.

At Annual General Meeting (AGM), as separately announced, ABB shareholders approved the cancellation of 88,403,189 shares; 74,782,600 shares purchased under the 2021-2022 program and 13,620,589 shares purchased under the initial Power Grids capital return program that had not been proposed for cancellation at ABB's 2021

remaining shares purchased under the 2021-2022 program as well as those purchased under this program at its 2023 AGM.

In addition, ABB intends to purchase up to 15 million shares until the 2023 AGM mainly for use in connection with its employee share plan.

ABB currently owns approximately 140 million treasury shares, including the 88 million shares proposed for cancellation at today's AGM.

ABB is a leading global technology company that energizes the transformation of society and industry to achieve a more productive, sustainable future.

By connecting software to its electrification, robotics, automation and motion portfolio, ABB pushes the boundaries of technology to drive performance to new levels.

With a history of excellence stretching back more than 130 years, ABB's success is driven by about 105,000 talented employees in over 100 countries.

## Minecraft Gamers can now earn Trillium from the Alien Worlds Metaverse

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## P&O Ferries acknowledges ignoring rules in firing 786

LONDON, March 29, (AP): The head of a ferry operator at the center of a bitter labor dispute summed up the situation when he acknowledged that the company chose to ignore the law and labor contracts when it fired 786 workers without consulting with them.

P&O Ferries Chief Executive Peter Hebbelwhite said while under intense questioning from members of a parliamentary committee that the company decided not to discuss its plans with workers because it knew labor unions would never agree. Lawmakers repeatedly characterized the move as a willful decision to break the law.

The company, based in Ireland and owned by a subsidiary of Dubai-based DP World, dismissed the workers as part of a cost-cutting plan it says was necessary to save the business and 2,200 other jobs. The fired seafarers are to be replaced by cheaper staff provided by a third-party crew provider.

"There is absolutely no doubt that we were required to consult with the unions," Hebbelwhite said. "We chose not to consult and we... will compensate everybody in full for that."

The cuts - which came after P&O received millions of pounds of British government aid during the COVID-19 pandemic - have caused outrage and sparked protests by trade unions at U.K. ports.

Unions representing the dismissed workers say P&O is paying redundancy payments set by Malta-based International Ferry Management Ltd. the equivalent of 1,81 pounds (\$2.38) an hour, Britain's current minimum wage is 8.91 pounds.

Trade unions have long objected to "fire and rehire" plans in which companies cut costs by firing workers then re-hire them under less generous terms. Under English labor law, such extreme action is only allowed to occur after extensive consultations with employees and unions.

P&O's decision to ignore those rules prompted scathing questions from members of the British Parliament committee.

In one exchange, Labour lawmaker Andy McDonald challenged Hebbelwhite to explain why the company ignored its legal obligations to consult with unions.

"When you get in your car and drive down the motorway, you see the 70 mile an hour sign, do you decide that that's not going to apply to me, I'm going to do 90 because I think it's important that I do that? Is that how you go about your life?" McDonald asked.

## Excerpted from the prestigious "Global Economics" magazine... thanks to his experience, that extends above 35 years



### Exceptional Achievement

Speaking about the award, Mr. Ahmed Al-Kandari said: "We are delighted with this exceptional achievement that crowns our efforts to excel in the services provided to customers and to advance the Facilities Management sector in Kuwait and the region. Such achievement consolidates the position of United Facilities Management Co. on the local and the regional levels. The award reflects the success of the company's growth and development strategy since its inception, with its focus on the customer."

Mr. Ahmed Al-Kandari revealed that the company was recently able to obtain the confidence of many clients, whether government agencies or private sector companies, to manage many major facilities in the State of Kuwait, including management, operation and maintenance of Jaber International Stadium and the services and facilities, comprehensive operation and maintenance of the Marina World and KIPCO Tower, as well as the operation and security services for the Central Bank of Kuwait headquarters and other multiple facilities operated by the Company.

He pointed out that United Facilities Management Co. acquires the largest share of property management of third parties, while managing properties and many real estate assets as well, including the real estate portfolio owned by the Kuwait Finance House, the Public Authority for Minors Affairs, and other portfolios.

Mr. Ahmed Yousef Al-Kandari concluded his speech by saying: "This award is considered a culmination of the efforts and activities of United Facility Management Co over the closing period, with the combined efforts of the work team, crowned by obtaining such honor."

Al-Kandari succeeded in managing United Facilities Management Co. (UFM) for 14 years, until it became one of the major companies in Kuwait and the region.

### Experience of 35 Years

Mr. Ahmed Al-Kandari has an extensive experience in financial markets, banks, real estate companies, Facilities Management and third-party property management for more than 35 years in Kuwait and the Middle East region.

Mr. Al-Kandari's win of such prestigious international award is a new confirmation of the success of the strategy of United Facilities Management Co. in the management of real estate assets and properties of others. United Facilities Management Co. is one of the subsidiaries of United Real Estate Co., with businesses spreading over GCC countries and the Middle East region.

United Facilities Management Company announced, in a press release, on winning this award, that the company is pursuing a clear strategy developed and supervised by the Vice Chairman and CEO of the company, Mr. Ahmed Yousef Al-Kandari, who won the award for the best CEO in Facilities Management, by the prestigious "The Global Economics" magazine, the U.K. based magazine that is famous for its quarterly reports and analyzes in various sectors around the world.

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## «المتحدة لإدارة المرافق» حصدت «أيزو»

**الكندي: الشهادة أول  
معيار عالمي لإدارة  
المرافق مقدم من  
قبل المنظمة الدولية  
للتوصيد والقياس**

وأشار الكتدرائي إلى أن حصول «ال المتحدة لادارة اسرارفاق» على شهادة الایزو انجاز ملحوظ به ويعزز مكانتها واعمالها في سوق ادارة المرافق في الكويت ودول مجلس التعاون الخليجي وسلطنة الشقيقة الاماراتية، موضحاً أن هنا الاجازة كلها جهوداً مشتركة بين وحدة تطوير وتنفيذ للبنية التحتية

الكويتية للطاقة

زار وفد من مجلس ادارة الجمعية الكويتية لطلاب المدارس المستحدثة مقر مكتب الاسم الكندي في الكويت في الوقت الحاضر حيث كان في استقباله رئيس مجلس ادارة متحف الاسم الكندي د. باسم المحمداني منشئ المتحف والخليفة الاستاذي-الباحث في الكويت ناصر الشطري وحدث سفير سلسلة عزيزى العطوان عن انجذابه للبيانات المنشورة في المحتوى المعرفي للمتحف في المدارس التي يجب ان تكون مربوطة بمعارف علم طرق حفظ مسوبيات المدارس المستحدثة باعتبارها المدرسة الفعلية، اضافة الى ذلك ونفعية مهارات طلابها بقطاع احاطة المدارس الجديدة والبنين بـ«الاستثمار في اجيالها» المذكونة.

وفي سياق ذاته اشارت رئيسة الجمعية الكويتية لطلاب المدارس المستحدثة بسماء العبدالله العميري بالقول:

نهدء الامم المتحدة تتضمن على اهميتها اعطاء الطالبة المتقدمة مصدر اساس لفهم التحالفية المدارس المستحدثة اسسها وقيمها وادعاتها ورسالتها، وذلك في اطار تطوير ادارة الجمعية مع اعضائها ومتلقيها.

مكتب الاسم الكندي في الكويت اقام امساكية اعتماداً على ارشادات مجلس ادارة

**«الكونية للطاقة المستدامة» بحث مع الأمم المتحدة تعزيز التعاون المشترك**



#### **صورة جماعية لمسؤول الكوادرية والذاتية**



ديون شركات الطاقة الأوروبية  
تفوزت بـ 1.7 تريليون دينار

بلغت طلبها تهدىء للتصاصات أوروبا على حلقة  
لقاءات الفرقعة على وسيا مع عملائها  
العسكريين في إكراينا  
شهد بعض الشركات الروسية إردا مسبباً  
لما عوقب مدعياً أن شركة روبيبرينغ افتر  
ستور، الذي ينادي بالذلة، يواجه على حوالى  
مليارات يورو، كما أن الشركة المنشآتية  
CZCE، تضاعف على 3 مليارات يورو لتغلق  
أداء العام.

أطول أجلاً كان الفارق بين الدولار واليورو، مرتقدماً عند 2.73٪. بينما ارتفع سعر الدولار مقابل اليورو وبلغ 1.15٪، بينما ارتفع سعر الدولار مقابل الجنيه المصري 1.05٪.

**النفط يواصل مكاسبه مع ضعف الدولار وشح الإمدادات**



العقود الآجلة لبرنت ارتفعت الى 104.36 دولاراً للبرميل

## FICO, Network International build on partnership

Global analytics software provider FICO and Network International, the enabler of digital commerce across the Middle East and Africa (MEA), announced that they have expanded their partnership to bring lenders the fraud protection and credit management solutions. These solutions, which are now available from Network International, will help financial services providers expand the digital economy

across the region. The two companies have been working together since 2017, when Network International began offering its customers FICO's Falcon® Fraud Manager, the credit fraud solution, which protects more than 2.6 billion payment cards worldwide. Now with FICO's Falcon, a Network International platform to protect all retail banking accounts.

Network International is also installing FICO's Blaze Advisor® Decision Management System in its data centres, so that it can offer hosted credit management services to lenders. Banks and other credit providers can use these services to make real-time approvals on credit applications while controlling risk and managing their portfolio of accounts with highly targeted, risk-aware offers and decisions.

## FourKites sees recovery at Chinese ports

As the supply chain visibility platform, FourKites collects and anonymises data to reveal important trends in transportation globally. Tracking more than 2.5 million shipments daily across road, rail, ocean, air, parcel and courier, and reaching more than 200 countries, these numbers give an accurate view of real-time conditions, allowing for better planning and decision-making.

FourKites says Philippe Gatois, VP Strategic Solutions (Ocean). "This is up from mid-May, when shipment volume was down as much as 25% over the same period."

For other Chinese ports, shipment volumes have remained strong, with volume at the Port of Shanghai up 20% and volume at the Port of Ningbo-Zhoushan up 35% compared to 12 March.

## 'GM can unseat Tesla'

# GM's Barra stands by ambitious EV pledge

**NEW YORK,** July 18. (AP) - The economy is a bit wobbly, but General Motors CEO Mary Barra isn't bucking off of an audacious prediction. By the middle of this decade, her company will sell more electric vehicles in the US than Tesla, the global sales leader.

To fulfill that pledge in as little as 2 1/2 years, she faces some long odds against immense economic forces that are working against auto sales. Inflation has spiked, interest rates are rising, material costs have soared and a global shortage of computer chips is still braking assembly lines at GM and other companies.

But in an interview with The Associated Press, Barra said she's confident GM can unseat Tesla with higher-priced electric vehicles, and it will beat Elon Musk to high-range EVs at prices that people can afford.

Last year GM sold just 25,000 electric vehicles in the US, less than one-tenth of the estimated 352,000 sold by Tesla. Although EV sales are rising dramatically, they're still only about 5% of the US new vehicle market, with many Americans still reluctant to change.

"To really get to 30, 40, 50% EVs being sold, you have to appeal to people that are in that \$30,000 to \$35,000 price range," Barra said.

Another company has pledged to cut the starting price of the Chevrolet Bolt small SUV to around \$26,000 later this year. GM is planning to roll out a Chevy Equinox small SUV with 300 miles of range for around \$30,000 in fall 2023. And on Monday night in California, it will unveil a larger (and more expensive) Chevy Blazer SUV that goes on sale next summer.

They'll join a couple of gargantuan Hummer EVs, an upcoming electric Silverado pickup and a Cadillac luxury SUV in taking on Tesla. And Barra said there's more to come on the way to offering 30 battery-powered vehicles globally by 2025. "What we have coming, it's in the heart of the market,"

she said, without giving details.

The mainstream vehicle is something Tesla has yet to master. The Model 3 sedan, its lowest-priced vehicle, starts at close to \$60,000.

Barra is hoping to keep prices relatively low, banking on chemistry breakthroughs to cut battery costs, offsetting huge price increases for lithium and other key elements that make batteries work.

Part of the strategy is convincing buyers that an electric vehicle can meet all their transportation needs. Many EV owners, she said, also have a gas-powered auto for longer trips.

### Charging

That's why the company announced a partnership to place 2,000 charging stations at up to 500 Pilot Travel Centers, spaced 50 miles apart along interstate travel corridors. "If the only vehicle you own is going to be an EV, you have to feel confident of charging," Barra said.

GM has a goal of making only electric passenger vehicles by 2035.

The switch to EVs would be monumental on its own for GM, a company that has made a living largely on the internal combustion engine for nearly 100 years.

But Barra also has to manage the transitions, keeping the profits flowing from gasoline vehicles to pay for battery development — even though GM currently can't run its factories flat-out due to the chip shortage. And at some point, money from gas vehicles will decline, so the EVs have to be profitable almost from the start.

Also, auto prices have risen to an average of around \$45,000, hoisting carmakers' bottom lines but pushing new vehicles out of reach of the middle class. Economists are predicting the Federal Reserve could add up to a full point to interest rates, raising the cost of auto loans. And there's talk



Mary Barra, CEO of General Motors, speaks during an interview with The Associated Press, Thursday, July 14, in New York. (AP)

about the US heading back into recession.

"It's pretty volatile right now," Barra conceded. "We're looking at many different scenarios as any prudent business leader would to make sure we're ready for whatever, however the situation evolves."

She said she expects parts and chip shortages will last into next year, with coronavirus outbreaks continuing to crimp the flow.

To deal with the semiconductor shortage, GM is throwing out its old model of letting parts suppliers acquire the chips with GM knowing little about them. Instead, by 2025, it will move toward three families of chips that Barra said the company will buy and control itself. They will be able to do multiple tasks, eliminating the need for dozens of chips in every vehicle.

### Standardization

That standardization will give GM the scale to buy in bulk and make sure supplies don't get interrupted in the future, Barra said. "We're also working with a select group of strategic companies to source these for the volumes. We'll have much better control and a stable supply."

Barra said new car prices are skewed right now because automakers are allocating scarce chips to higher-margin vehicles, and prices should come down as more chips become available.

Still, she knows affordability will be a problem. With that in mind, she said GM offers the Chevrolet Trailblazer starting at just below \$20,000. The company also is linking used vehicle buyers to dealer inventories nationwide. And GM's Cruise autonomous vehicle unit is starting a driverless ride-hailing service in San Francisco that will spread to more cities, offering another affordable transportation mode, she said.

GM exited Europe in 2017 by selling its Opel brand after years of losses, but Barra said plans are being formed to return to the huge market with electric vehicles. "All I can tell you is that I think it's a huge growth opportunity for the company,"

and we're excited to be back," Barra said.

She has no plans to change GM's joint venture in China with state-owned automaker SAIC, even though Beijing has stopped requiring that foreign automakers enter such partnerships with Chinese companies. But Barra said there may be a chance for GM to bring in iconic and luxury vehicles.

### Transition

GM's transition to EVs comes amid growing calls for corporations to take stands on political and social issues such as race relations and abortion. Yet opportunities for missteps are many as companies like GM walk a fine line of doing so without alienating sectors of a customer base that spans the country's more conservative midsection.

Most electric vehicles, for instance, are sold on the coasts, where people tend to have more liberal views. But most of GM's income comes from pickup and SUV sales in the country's more conservative midsection.

Regarding abortion, Barra said she didn't want to speak broadly about the Supreme Court's decision to overturn Roe vs. Wade, but she noted that GM does pay for employees to travel to get medical services.

"We're going to continue with that practice, really not a lot of change in what we're doing from what we've done in the past, other than we will make sure we comply with all state laws," she said.

In 2020, after George Floyd was killed by a Minneapolis police officer, Barra issued a strong public statement and committed to several changes at the company, including creating an internal inclusion board and evaluating employees on inclusionary action.

Throughout her career, Barra, who was GM's product planning chief before becoming CEO in January 2014, has had to make difficult decisions. To manage the complexities of her job, she "I need to draw on that experience."

"I'm an engineer, so I'm a problem solver," she said.

In line with the Bank's comprehensive social responsibility strategy and ongoing support of youth and sports activities

## Burgan Bank Sponsors KBA's First Padel Tournament



Dr. Hamed Alkhatib - Secretary General at Kuwait Banking Association, Mr. Masseoud M. J. Hayet, Vice Chairman and Group CEO of Burgan Bank, Group, and Ms. Khaloud Alfeeli, Group Head - Corporate Communications, with the Burgan team at the bank's booth during the tournament.

**Burgan Bank sponsored the Kuwait Banking Association's (KBA) First Padel Tournament, which was held from June 30 to July 2 at the Masaeh Padel Court and featured the participation of teams from various local banks. This comes in line with Burgan Bank's comprehensive social responsibility strategy and its commitment to sponsoring major community events – especially those that promote positive trends and popular sports activities, such as Padel.**

A total of 128 teams took part in the tournament, with 64 teams in the male category and another 64 in the female. Several of these teams were dedicated to bank staff, including two teams, one female team and the other male team for Burgan Bank staff. The competition took place over

the course of three days, the first two of which saw the male participants compete whilst the final day was dedicated to the female teams – and at the end of which the top three teams were rewarded with valuable cash prizes.

On her part, Ms. Hessa Hussain Al-Nujadah, Senior Manager - Public Relations at Burgan Bank, said: "We are proud to sponsor and participate in this tournament organized by KBA, as events such as this truly strengthen the bonds between us in the local banking sector, in addition to helping foster the local sports culture. As a bank, we are always keen on encouraging people – and young people especially – to invest their time in sports. Padel, as the most popular sport of the

moment has been very successful in getting young people to be more physically active and adopt healthy hobbies." She further added: "At Burgan Bank, we have always made a point to sponsor various sport programs and initiatives, as part of our comprehensive, sustainability-focused social responsibility programs. We have also been committed to investing in youth and sports in every way we can."

Burgan Bank continues to implement its social responsibility strategies by supporting vital sectors within the Kuwaiti community. The Bank maintains a rich and diverse program of events, campaigns and initiatives – with sports remaining a cornerstone of its program throughout the year.

As the first company in Kuwait to obtain the approved certificate in facilities management

## "United Facilities Management" obtains the "ISO" certificate



Ahmed Al-Kandari

**The certificate is the first global standard for facilities management presented by the International Organization for Standardization and Measurement**

The company occupies a leading position in the facilities management sector in Kuwait, and the region, and it continues applying innovative technologies

The United Facilities Management Company (UFM), which is a subsidiary of the United Real Estate Company, revealed that it had obtained the ISO 41001: 2018 quality certificate for the facilities management system, in a new and prestigious achievement to keep pace with the latest international systems and enhance its leading position towards its customers.

On this occasion, the Vice Chairman and CEO of the United Facilities Management Company, Mr Ahmed Yousef Al-Kandari, stated that the quality certificate for the facilities management system is the first global standard for facilities management provided by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), and with such achievement, the United Facilities Management Company became the first in its field in Kuwait, to obtain this internationally accredited certificate.

### A New Achievement

Al-Kandari pointed out that the United Facilities Management's obtaining the ISO certificate is an achievement that is cause for pride as it enhances its position and it businesses in the facilities management market in Kuwait, the Gulf Cooperation Council and the Middle East region. He explained that this achievement was the result of the tireless and regular work and effort exerted by the company in all its sectors and divisions.

Al-Kandari explained that the United Facilities Management Company (UFM) occupies an advanced position in the facilities management sector in the State of Kuwait and the region, as a company that provides integrated services for property and facility management, and continues to apply innovative technologies and advanced operating standards on a world-class level for its services as an ongoing basis.

Al-Kandari stated that the new ISO certificate obtained by the company is a new addition to the previous certificates obtained by the United Facility Management Company, which are, ISO 9001 for the quality management system, ISO 14001 and ISO 45001, which confirms the company's commitment to standards related to security, safety and environment and providing services to customers in the best and finest quality, especially as the development of the facilities management industry in Kuwait and the region, pushes forward the need to provide the best as the company seeks to be a distinguished model to follow.

### High Quality Services

The ISO 41001 Facility Management System is considered the world's first international standard for facilities management system (FMS) by the International Organization for Standardization and Measurement (ISO). It helps facilities management companies provide high quality services consistently in accordance with the requirements of real estate and property owners. By obtaining such standard, the United Facilities Management Company has proven that it harnesses all possibilities to provide advanced services in the State of Kuwait, the Gulf Cooperation Council and North Africa.

It is worth noting that the United Facilities Management Company has succeeded during the recent period in obtaining the confidence of many clients in government agencies and the private sector in managing many major facilities in Kuwait, including management, operation and maintenance of Jaber International Stadium services and facilities, comprehensive operation and maintenance of Marina World and KIPCO Tower, as well as For the operation and security services of the Central Bank of Kuwait headquarters and other multiple facilities operated by the Company.

Mr. Ahmed Yousef Al-Kandari concluded his speech by saying: "This achievement is added to the group of pioneering achievements of the United Facilities Management Company, through which it seeks to strengthen its position among the major companies in the region by adhering to quality standards, applying the best international standards in facilities management, and advancing various aspects of developing project management."

### Information for Editors:

The United Facilities Management Company (K.S.C.) is a wholly owned subsidiary of the United Real Estate Company (K.S.C.), the real estate arm of the Projects Holding Group (KIPCO), and is one of the leading companies in the field of integrated management services of facilities management.

The United Facilities Management Company was established in 2007, and is the first company in Kuwait to provide integrated services for property and facility management and continues to apply innovation, technology and distinguished operational standards, starting from the design stages to all stages of operation and other services for buildings, government facilities, commercial and residential complexes, multi-purpose buildings and oil sector facilities, as well as consulting services, maintenance, security and cleaning, in addition to other services.

The company's portfolio includes providing commercial and residential real estate management services for mixed use in several countries in the Middle East and North Africa, including the State of Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, the Sultanate of Oman, the Kingdom of Bahrain, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Lebanese Republic.

This achievement coincides with UFM's celebration of the tenth anniversary of its establishment and its acquisition of a large percentage of contracts in Kuwait, which reflected positively on the company's revenues in a significant way.

In 2018, the company signed several contracts with companies and authorities in the private and governmental sectors in Kuwait, including the new building of the Central Bank of Kuwait, and the buildings and branches of Viva Communications and Schlumberger Oil Company.





For more information about the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, please go to the NICHD Web site at [www.nichd.nih.gov](http://www.nichd.nih.gov).

اجتازوا البرامج التدريبية الـ ٤ حترافية بنجاح وحصلوا على الشهادات المعتمدة

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## **المتحدة لإدارة المرافق تحصد «التميز في إدارة العقارات»**

- الكندي: الشركة تدير حالياً 8500 وحدة تجارية وسكنية في الخاص والحكومي.. و 95% نسب الإشغال
  - الخميري: لدينا فريق عمل متخصص ومحترف ي إدارة المحافظ العقارية ونجح في إدارة أكثر من 350 عقاراً



أحمد الكثيري

لعام 2023- خلا جهاز القيادة في قطاع التكنولوجيا المالية

زاد تحصد «أفضل شركة للتكنولوجيا المالية بالشرق الأوسط»

ارتفاع مؤشر ستاندرد آند بورز المركب لدول التعاون 3.1% خلال الشهر الماضي

**«المركز»: تعلق «الفيدرالي» رفع الفائدة أنعش بورصات الخليج**